

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/656,816

Examiner

Adolfo Nino

Applicant(s)

WIANT ET AL.

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Application filed 9/5/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 05 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/5/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1-8, the cited prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest, alone or in combination, a bus joint cover assembly comprising a cap member telescopically joined with a collar member around a bus joint wherein the bus joint is contained within the bus joint cover assembly.

With respect to claims 9-14, the cited prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest, alone or in combination, a bus joint cover assembly comprising a means for telescopically joining with a cap member and a collar member around a bus joint wherein the bus joint is contained within the bus joint cover assembly.

With respect to claims 15-22, the cited prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest, alone or in combination, a method of enclosing a bus bar joint comprising the step of joining a cap member, having a snap boss, and a collar member, having a snap slot, by coupling the snap boss to the snap slot, wherein the bus bar joint is contained within a bus joint cover assembly.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Josten et al. (US 6,781,818 B2) disclose bus brace comb assembly. Soares et al. (US 6,603,075 B1) disclose a vertical bus power connector. Hilgert et al. (US 6,521,837 B2) disclose an electrical busway housing system. Zachrai (US 6,489,567 B2) discloses connecting bus bars. Reed (US 6,435,888 B1) discloses a captive splice assembly. Wilkie et al. (US 6,111,745) disclose switchgear conductors. Wagener (US 6,100,473) discloses a support for busbars. Wagener et al. (US 6,069,321) disclose a device for attaching busbar to a support rail. Chauquet (US 5,941,654) discloses a bus bar assembly. Ishikawa (US 5,364,203) discloses a bus bar connecting device. Duke et al. (US 5,011,421) disclose a connector assembly. Shrout et al. (US 4,979,906) disclose a busway weatherproof housing. Wittmer (US 4,912,599) discloses a bus-to-plug interlock. Gagnon et al. (US 4,886,940) disclose a bus duct joint. Larkin et al. (US 4,849,581) disclose an adjustable joint. Pear (US 4,419,715) discloses a bus bar assembly. Kovatch et al. (US 4,307,304) disclose an electrical switchboard apparatus. Krause (US 4,097,103) discloses a busway plug assembly. Rozenboom et al. (US 4,030,794) disclose a bus bar and switchboard assemblage. Lucas (US 3,315,132) discloses a busbar system. Rehder (US 2,950,456) discloses an electric bus construction.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adolfo Nino whose telephone number is (571) 272-1981. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-5:00).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AN


DEAN A. REICHARD
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